August 11, 2017 Dear Parents, We are excited to teach your children this year in Kindergarten! In our class, we focus on helping each child become an independent thinker and learner. Children learn through play, teacher directed activities, and child initiated exploration. Our goal is to help each child become responsible and respectful for themselves and our Kindergarten family. Curriculum: Treasures (Language Arts), Author of the Month, Rhyme of the Week, Math in Focus, Science, Social Studies, Ivrit/Aleph Bet, Chagim, Middot, Social Emotional learning and Handwriting. Please see attached descriptions of these curricula. **Discipline:** We believe in positive reinforcement and modeling appropriate behavior. We give verbal praise to positive behaviors. When needed, we redirect a child's negative behavior or use natural consequences. Our Take a Break Station is for a child to relax and/or reflect of on his/her feelings. Please see the Family Handbook for the ECE guidance policy. Specialties: Include PE, Art/Library, Computers, Music PE is on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00-9:30 - Please have your child wear sneakers on those days. **Birthday Parties:** We encourage parents to come and celebrate with their child or send in a special snack on his or her birthday. **Communication:** I can be reached by email at any time: Morah Michelle michelle.katz@mhafyos.org or call at 901-857-5816.

Other information: Each Friday, a folder will come home with your child. This will have work from the week for you to review with your child as well as a class newsletter and a weekly progress form. The school newsletter will come in that folder as well. Please empty the folder and send it back each Monday. We send home a weekly Progress Report, in your child's Friday Folder. This will help you stay up to date on your child's social and academic development. Please sign the form after reviewing it and leave it in the folder. Please see an attached sample form. A weekly color newsletter will be emailed to you each Friday and will inform you of the learning happening in the classroom. A black and white copy will be sent home as well. Please read the newsletter each week to reinforce the concepts taught in class. We have a *Scientist of the Week* starting in January. The schedule and an explanation are attached. We have a Star of the Week starting after the Chagim. Details will come then. We serve two snacks daily. We cannot heat up food during lunch. We look forward to an exciting and enriching year with your children, Morah Michelle and Morah Hanielle